Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 COME-00 H-03 EB-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /146 W

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DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURY AND DEFENSE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EFIN, GW SUBJECT: OFFSET

REF: BONN 14542

- 1. THE GERMANS HAVE NOW PROVIDED US WITH THE PAPER DETAILING THEIR DM 1.5 BILLION ANNUAL SPENDING IN SUPPORT OF THE US FORCES OUTSIDE OF THE OFFSET AGREEMENT (SEE PARA 5 OF REFTEL). THE GERMAN PRESENTATION GENERALLY FOLLOWS THE LINE OF A SIMILAR PRESENTATION THEY HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE TO NATO (SEE US NATO 4382) BUT CONTAINS SOME FURTHER ELABORATIONS. THE GERMAN INTENTION IS FOR THE PAPER TO BE USED BY UNDER SECRETARY CASEY AS HE DEEMS ADVISABLE IN BRINGING INCREASED AWARENESS IN THE US CONGRESS REGARDING THESE GERMAN CONTRIBUTIONS.
- 2. WE BELIEVE THE PAPER CAN BE USEFUL FOR THIS PURPOSE, BUT BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING CAVEATS SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND IN ITS USE: (A) THE DM 940 MILLION CONFIDENTIAL

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ESTIMATE OF THE ANNUAL IMPUTED RENT OF FEDERAL

PROPERTY USED BY THE US FORCES FREE OF CHARGE IS ONLY A VERY ROUGH ONE. THE GERMANS TELL US THAT NO DETAILED ESTIMATE IS POSSIBLE HOWEVER. IN ADDITION SOME OF THIS FEDERAL PROPERTY WAS PREVIOUSLY PROCURED WITH OCCUPATION COSTS WHICH THE GERMANS MADE AVAILABLE IN THE EARLY POSTWAR YEARS INSTEAD OF A DEFENSE CONTRIBUTION OF THEIR OWN. THERE, THEREFORE, IS SOME QUESTION REGARDING THE APPROPRIATENESS OF NOW COUNTING THE FREE USE OF THE PROPERTY AS AN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION. (B) SOME OF THE GERMAN CURRENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE REAL ESTATE FOR THE US FORCES INVOLVE THE MAKING AVAILABLE OF SUCH REAL ESTATE TO THE US FORCES IN EXCHANGE FOR PREVIOUSLY REQUISITIONED REAL ESTATE. THE GERMAN SIDE THUS THROUGH THESE TRANSACTIONS ACQUIRES THE USE OF EQUIVALENT REAL ESTATE FOR OTHER USES AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL FEDERAL PROPERTY WHICH WILL REVERT TO THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WHEN IT IS NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE US FORCES.

4. HERMBERG WILL BE HANDCARRYING THE GERMAN PAPER TO WASHINGTON OVER THE WEEKEND. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMED FORCES, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, OFFSET PAYMENTS, AMENDMENTS, MILITARY BASES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN15138

Document Number: 1973BONN15138 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: GS HILLENBRAND

Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: BONN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Line Count: 84

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731025/aaaaasey.tel

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: BONN 14542 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: garlanwa

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08 AUG 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE Subject: OFFSET TAGS: EFIN, GE, US

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005